

Transportation Funding Task Force (TF2)
Lansing, MDOT Aeronautics Auditorium
June 30, 2008

Meeting began at 9:05 a.m.

Present: Rep. Pam Byrnes, Cindy Elliott, Sen. Jud Gilbert, Dennis Gillow, Rep. Phil LaJoy, John James, Ann Jousma-Miller, Mike Nystrom, Roger Salo, Peter Varga, Susan Zehnder, Rich Studley

Absent: Sen. Glenn Anderson

May 19 minutes were approved unanimously.

June 30 agenda was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

- Frank Lynn, Disability Advocates of Kent Count . Seeks accessible transportation system all mobility options. In the 21st century we need much more roads and bridges: high speed rail, intercity passenger rail, high quality bus service and other options to attract young people who will rebuild our economy. Urged TF2 to have a bold vision
- Carolyn Grawi, Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living, representing the disabled community. 1 in 5 people in Michigan has disabilities and Michigan's transportation system does not work smoothly for them; it's a struggle for folks with disabilities to get where they need to be on time. Example: no good public transit to aeronautics building. Has no problem contributing to the system, but it has to work for everybody.

Current Events

- Tim Hoeffner, Policy Administrator, provided information on traffic volumes and federal aviation legislation.

Report from the CAC

- Gretchen Driskell, CAC Chairperson, reported the CAC technical subcommittees are on track for the CAC to deliver its report to the TF2 on July 21.

Michigan Aviation Presentations:

- Matt Brinker, MDOT Aviation Services specialist, made a presentation on the services provided by airports, their economic impact, and their funding mechanisms.
- Dave VanderVeen, Central Services, Oakland County, presented the task force with information about general aviation and about Oakland County Airport's role as a "reliever airport."

- Cheryl Bush, Michigan Business Aviation Association, presented information on the importance of general aviation to business, especially as commercial airlines struggle with higher gas prices.
- Greg Pecoraro, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, talked about federal funding for aviation, and asked the group that keep in mind that as they consider increasing state revenue sources, federal revenue sources are also going to go up (and hence, fees to pilots).

Discussion of funding alternatives:

- Aarne Frobom presented a draft catalog of funding options that were compiled by MDOT for the TF2's use in discussing transportation revenue alternatives in the coming months.

Report by Businesses for Better Transportation (BBT)

- Alan Kiriluk, Chair of that group and chairman of KIRCO Corporation presented information on the economic impact of transportation infrastructure and service, and recommendations to address the needs for local communities.

Report on Global Freight Logistics

- Cindy Elliott, TF2 Member and Supply Chain Sourcing Director for the Dow Chemical Company, presented information on use of all modes in international shipping and trends impacting them.

Follow up:

Survey of TF2 members on funding options before next meeting (to help MDOT staff focus resources in developing in-depth analyses of alternatives)

Opportunity for TF2 members to discuss revenue options among themselves

Send CAC reports in advance – would prefer an executive summary

Estimate revenue from sales tax on aviation related products

Information about aviation taxes in neighboring states

The meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.